

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A flooring system comprising rectangular floorboards which are mechanically lockable,

in which system the individual floorboards along their long sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking together similar, adjoining floorboards both vertically and horizontally and along their short sides have pairs of opposing connectors which lock the floorboards horizontally,

wherein the connectors of the floorboards are designed to allow locking-together of the long sides by angling along an upper joint edge,

wherein the system comprises two different types of floorboards, the connectors of one type of the floorboards along one pair of opposite edge portions arranged in a mirror-inverted manner relative to the corresponding connectors along the same pair of opposite edge portions of the other type of floorboards, **[[and]]**

wherein said pair of opposing connectors of said short sides are adapted for locking the floorboards only horizontally,

wherein the mirror inverted panels are connected to each other

wherein a short side is lockable to a long side.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The flooring system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connectors of the floorboards on the short sides are designed so as to allow horizontal locking by an essentially vertical motion.

4. (Previously Presented) The flooring system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the floorboards are disconnectable by an angular motion away from a subfloor.

5. (Previously Presented) The flooring system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the floorboards are disconnectable by an angular motion away from a subfloor.

6. (Previously Presented) A flooring system comprising rectangular floorboards which are mechanically lockable,

in which system the individual floorboards along their long sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking together similar, adjoining floorboards both vertically and horizontally and along their short sides have pairs of opposing connectors which lock the floorboards horizontally,

wherein the connectors of the floorboards are designed to allow locking-together of the long sides by angling along an upper joint edge,

wherein the system comprises two different types of floorboards, the connectors of one type of the floorboards along one pair of opposite edge portions arranged in a mirror-inverted manner relative to the corresponding connectors along the same pair of opposite edge portions of the other type of floorboards, and

wherein said pair of opposing connectors of said short sides are adapted for locking the floorboards only horizontally,

wherein the connectors of the floorboards are designed to allow locking-together of the long sides by angling along the upper joint edge and of the short sides by a substantially vertical motion, and

wherein a first short side is lockable to a first long side vertically and horizontally, and a second short side is lockable to a second long side only horizontally by a substantially vertical motion, and

wherein the horizontal connectors on the first and second short sides have cooperating locking surfaces which are formed differently from the cooperating locking surfaces of the horizontal connectors of the first and second long sides.

7. (Previously Presented) The flooring system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the cooperating locking surfaces of the first and second short sides have a first locking angle to a front side of the floorboard, and the cooperating locking surfaces of the first and second long sides have a second locking angle to the front side of the board, and the first locking angle is higher than the second locking angle.

8. (Original) The flooring system as claimed in claim 7, wherein parts of the horizontal connectors include a separate fiberboard-based strip mechanically joined to the floorboard.

9. (Original) The flooring system as claimed in claim 7, wherein parts of the horizontal connectors include a separate strip of aluminum sheet which is formed by bending and which is mechanically joined to the floorboard.

10. (Previously Presented) The flooring system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the cooperating locking surfaces of the floorboards on the first and second long sides and the first and second short sides have a locking angle which is essentially perpendicular to the surface of the floorboards, and that the cooperating locking surfaces of the first and second short sides have a higher vertical extent than do the cooperating locking surfaces of the first and second long sides.

11. (Original) The flooring system as claimed in claim 6, wherein parts of the horizontal connectors include a separate fiberboard-based strip mechanically joined to the floorboard.

12. (Original) The flooring system as claimed in claim 6, wherein parts of the horizontal connectors include a separate strip of aluminum sheet which is formed by bending and which is mechanically joined to the floorboard.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a floor of rectangular, mechanically locked floorboards,

which along their long sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking together similar, adjoining floorboards both vertically and horizontally and along their short sides have pairs of opposing connectors,

wherein the connectors of the floorboards on the long sides are designed so as to allow locking-together by an angular motion along an upper joint edge, and

wherein the connectors of the floorboards on the short sides are designed so as to allow locking-together by an essentially vertical motion,

said floorboards comprising a first and a second type of floorboard, which differ from each other by the connectors of the first type of floorboard along one pair of opposite edge portions being arranged in a mirror-inverted manner relative to the corresponding connectors along the same pair of opposite edge portions of the second type of floorboard, the method comprising:

forming a first row of floorboards by:

joining a first short side of a second floorboard of the first type to a short side of a first floorboard of the first type, and then

joining a short side of a third floorboard of the first type to a second short side of the second floorboard of the first type, wherein the third floorboard is the last laid floorboard in the first row, and then

forming a second row of floorboards by:

joining a long side of floorboard of the second type in ~~[[a new]]~~ the second row directly to [[a]] the last laid floorboard of the first type in ~~[[a preceding]]~~ the first row.

14. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the floorboards are laid in parallel rows.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the horizontal connectors on the short sides have cooperating locking surfaces which are designed differently from the cooperating locking surfaces on the long sides.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the floorboards are laid in parallel rows.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for making a flooring of rectangular, mechanically locked floorboards,

which along their long sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking together similar, adjoining floorboards both vertically and horizontally and along their short sides have pairs of opposing connectors which allow locking-together of similar, adjoining floorboards only horizontally,

wherein the connectors of the floorboards on the long sides are designed so as to allow locking-together by an angular motion along an upper joint edge, said floorboards comprising a first and a second type of floorboard, which differ from each other by the connectors of a first type of floorboard along one pair of opposite edge portions being arranged in a mirror-inverted manner relative to the corresponding connectors along the same pair of opposite edge portions of a second type of floorboard, the method comprising:

forming a second row of floorboards by:

locking together two long sides of at least two floorboards of the first type of floorboard in the second row by angling towards two similar floorboards of the same type in a first row; and

forming a third row of floorboards by:

locking together a long side of a floorboard of the second type of floorboard with a long side of a floorboard of the first type of floorboard in the second row by inward angling, and

forming a fourth row of floorboards by:

locking together ~~[[another]]~~ a long side of a floorboard of the second type of floorboard with a long side of a floorboard of the second type of floorboard in the third row by inward angling ~~towards a similar floorboard of the same type.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A flooring system comprising:

rectangular floorboards with long sides which have pairs of opposing connectors which at least allow locking-together both horizontally and vertically by inward angling, and short sides having pairs of opposing connectors which lock the floorboard horizontally,

wherein the system comprises floorboards with a surface layer of laminate, said floorboards being joined in a herringbone pattern, and that joining and disconnecting is achievable by an angular motion, ~~[[and]]~~

said pair of opposing connectors of said short sides are adapted for locking the floorboards only horizontally,

wherein the mirror inverted panels are connected to each other, and

wherein a short side is lockable to along side.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the connectors of the floorboards on the short sides are adapted for locking the floorboards only horizontally.

20. (New) A flooring system comprising rectangular floorboards which are mechanically lockable,

in which system the individual floorboards along their long sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking together similar, adjoining floorboards both vertically

and horizontally and along their short sides have pairs of opposing connectors which lock the floorboards horizontally,

wherein the connectors of the floorboards are designed to allow locking-together of the long sides by angling along an upper joint edge,

wherein the system comprises two different types of floorboards, the connectors of one type of the floorboards along one pair of opposite edge portions arranged in a mirror-inverted manner relative to the corresponding connectors along the same pair of opposite edge portions of the other type of floorboards,

wherein the mirror inverted panels are connected to each other

wherein a short side is lockable to a long side.

21. (New) A flooring system comprising rectangular floorboards which are mechanically lockable,

in which system the individual floorboards along their long sides have pairs of opposing connectors for locking together similar, adjoining floorboards both vertically and horizontally and along their short sides have pairs of opposing connectors which lock the floorboards horizontally,

wherein the connectors of the floorboards are designed to allow locking-together of the long sides by angling along an upper joint edge,

wherein the system comprises two different types of floorboards, the connectors of one type of the floorboards along one pair of opposite edge portions arranged in a mirror-inverted manner relative to the corresponding connectors along the same pair of opposite edge portions of the other type of floorboards,

wherein said pair of opposing connectors of said short sides are adapted for locking the floorboards only horizontally,

wherein the mirror inverted panels are connected to each other.